

LIAISON 4-4-1

(rewritten)
(in ODDI)
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revised version

Mr. Harold Seidman
Assistant Director for
Management and Organization
Executive Office of The President
Bureau of the Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Seidman:

We have studied the letter from the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) relative to Antarctic place name research which you forwarded in your memorandum of 16 June. Based upon our eighteen years experience with the production of gazetteers and a close association with the Board on Geographic Names, we see no advantage to the proposal. Foreign names research and the publication of gazetteers has been promulgated on the theory that the requirements of a variety of users must be satisfied, a principal that must continue to be followed whether Antarctic names research is under USGS or DoD auspices. Certainly the DoD has an inherent interest in the Antarctic and, presumably, would consider that area an integral part of its foreign names research as would this Agency if it were continuing to fund the gazetteer program.

The Antarctic hardly can be considered a domestic area and, therefore, would not necessarily be within the purview of USGS responsibility, and traditionally has been an interagency endeavor. We see no inconsistency in assigning this names research to a Defense agency and the Antarctic Treaty's designation of the area for peaceful purposes. Many foreign mapping agencies are associated with military departments and the DoD furnishes the logistical support for Antarctic exploration. Further, administrative contact with Treaty countries on Antarctic place names normally would continue to be made through the Interagency Board on Geographic Names.

Sincerely,

L. K. White
Executive Director-Comptroller

Concur:

R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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